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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BENTLEY - with - ARKSEY

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ANNUAL REPORT for 1962

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

by

L. HAY

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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ANNUAL REPORT of the CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Bentley,
Nr. Doncaster.
August, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit this report on the work of the department for the year 1962.

There has been some improvement in the amount of work carried out in respect of routine matters. Greater emphasis was placed on food premises where the number of inspections of premises, other than those used for slaughtering, has increased from 272 in 1961 to 448 in 1962. The visits to properties in respect of housing repairs also showed a considerable increase from 482 in 1961 to 773 in 1962. The registration of food hawkers and their premises and hairdressers' premises under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951 was put into effect during the year.

After the 1961 Census when this area was officially more than 20,000 population the full administration of the Shops Act became my responsibility. However, it has not been possible to carry out very much work in this direction owing to the heavy pressure on the time of the staff for other matters.

An effort has been made to cover as many of the diversified matters which falls to the lot of the public health inspector as it was possible, but it was apparent that with the staff available selective inspection had to operate. This situation convinced the Council of the insufficiency of the staff and early in 1963 it was agreed that the establishment be increased by one inspector and one clerk.

I would like to thank the Council for their tolerance during a difficult period and for the action taken to improve the environmental health services to the community. I must express my appreciation to the staff for the manner in which they have carried out their duties. My thanks are also due to Doctor Ferguson, who, with his many years of extremely wide experience, has proved to have been of inestimable value with his advice and help.

Yours faithfully,
LEWIS HAY
Chief Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health, Housing and Petroleum Inspector

L. HAY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Public Health Inspector's Joint Board

Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate

Smoke Inspector's Certificate

Additional Public Health Inspector

A. E. HOLDSWORTH, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Public Health Inspector's Joint Board

Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate

Student Public Health Inspector

J. R. CARTER

Clerk

J. WRIGHT (Mrs.)

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

General:

Area of District—4,961 acres

Population—23,160.

						Visits
No of visits made	...	...	...	...	...	6623
„ complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	557
„ complaints confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	540
„ verbal notices	...	...	...	...	...	410
„ informal notices	...	...	...	...	...	75
„ statutory notices	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ letters and notices from 1961	...	...	...	...	...	93
„ letters and notices outstanding	31.12.62	...	...	...	...	83
„ matters referred to Surveyor	...	...	...	...	...	138

Summary of Visits:

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	13
Atmospheric Pollution:-						
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	27
Deposit Stations	...	...	...	...	...	16
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	11
Colliery Spoilbanks, Tips	...	...	...	...	...	9
Animal Keeping	...	...	...	...	...	8
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	850
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	192
Drainage and Testing	...	...	...	...	...	90
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	60

Food Premises:-

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Canteens and Kitchens - Industrial	...	...	...	...	...	23
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	21
Clubs and Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	20
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	29
Food Vans	...	...	...	...	...	26
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	80
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	290
Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	50
Other Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	19
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses and Lairages	...	...	...	...	...	305
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	103
Hairdressers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	42

Houses re:-

Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	4
Disrepair Certificates	...	...	...	...	...	1
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	1
Exchange	...	...	...	...	...	79
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	773
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	78
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	17
Prospective Council Tenants	...	...	...	...	...	212
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	55
Standard Grants	...	...	...	...	...	136
Sub-letting	...	...	...	...	...	83
Vacated Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	91
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	26

Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	187
Knackers Yards	...	...	...	...	...	92
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	642
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	94
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	123
Pet Animals	...	...	...	...	...	1
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	29
Refuse Storage and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	283
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	971

Sanitary Accommodation:-

Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	21
Private	...	...	...	...	...	12
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public	...	...	...	...	...	6
Agricultural Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sewage Works and Sewers	...	...	...	...	3
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	59
Streams etc.	...	...	...	...	12
Sampling:-					
Food and Drugs	—	Milk	...	...	40
do	—	Sugar	...	...	1
Biological	—	Milk	...	...	18
Bacterial	—	Water	...	...	1
Chemical	—	Water	...	...	9
Bacterial	—	Ice Cream	...	...	112
Others	—		...	...	1
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	18

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Houses — Internal

Bath waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Coppers provided	...	...	...	...	1
Doors and frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Handrails secured	...	...	...	...	1
Plasterwork of walls renewed	...	...	...	...	14
Fireplaces:-					
Cooking ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	16
Open fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Brick surrounds repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	17
Plasterwork of ceilings renewed	...	...	...	...	14
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Skirting boards renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply systems:-					
Pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Cisterns renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Taps repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Fire back boilers renewed	...	...	...	...	1

Houses — External

Boundary walls repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Chimney pots renewed or reset	...	...	...	...	1
House walls repointed	...	...	...	...	4
Damp walls treated	...	...	...	...	8
Doors and frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	14
Door locks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	364
Eaves spouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11
Fascia board repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Rain water fall pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	5

Lead flashings and aprons renewed	...	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	20
Bay window roofs repaired	...	...	...	3
Window frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	14
Reveals to frames repointed	...	...	...	7
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	8
Fasteners renewed	...	...	...	6
Yard paving renewed	...	...	...	1
Coalplaces:				
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	1
Eaves spouts repaired	...	...	...	1
Closets:				
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	1
Basins renewed	...	...	...	3
Flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	4
Flush pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	2
Eaves spouts repaired	...	...	...	1
Drains:				
Cleansed	...	...	...	153
Repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	1
Inspection chamber provided or repaired	...	...	...	2
Ventilation and soil pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	3
Path pipes renewed	...	...	...	6
Shops:				
Redecoration:-				
Walls	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired	...	...	...	1
Wash hand basins provided	...	...	...	1
Hot water supplies provided	...	...	...	1
General:				
Premises cleared of rats and mice	...	...	...	249

Work Carried Out On Default Of Owners:

It has been necessary for the Council to carry out repair work to one property at a cost of £54.

Property Repairs:

There has been a further increase in the number of complaints in respect of housing defects but no great difficulty has been experienced in effecting remedial works and as previously reported it was necessary to carry out work in default in one case only.

Rent Act 1957:

No applications have been received under the Rent Act, 1957, for certificates of disrepair. One application was made for a certificate as to the remedying of defects in a landlord's undertaking and this was granted.

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959:

Standard Grants:

No. of Applications—Owner/Occupiers	...	...	13
—Tenanted houses	...	...	54
No. Approved	...	...	65
No. Refused	...	...	1
No. of completed works	...	...	13
Amount paid in grants	...	...	£924. 5s. 6d.
Average grant per house	...	...	£ 71. 1s.11d.

Amenities Provided:

Fixed bath in a bathroom	...	...	9
Wash basin	...	...	9
Hot water supply system	...	...	8
Water closet in the dwelling	...	...	10
Larder provided	...	...	2

Discretionary Grants:

No application was made for discretionary grant.

There has been an increase in the number of applications for standard grants, due in most part to the National Coal Board making application for grant towards the installation of wash basins to fifty houses which already had the other four amenities. With this exception there is a complete lack of interest on the part of the owners of tenanted property to improve their houses. Any measure of success in this direction will only be by enforcement procedure. However, since the Council, later during the year, agreed to assist owners with loans it is to be hoped that there will be more interest in improvement schemes.

PROSECUTIONS

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924

One person was prosecuted in February at the West Riding Magistrates' Court for the use of unlicensed premises for the purpose of slaughtering and failing to give notice of the day, time and place of slaughter of an animal for sale for human consumption. The defendant pleaded guilty and a fine of £5 with £7. 2s. 8d. costs was imposed.

One firm was prosecuted in February for the sale of a loaf which was not of the quality demanded. A plea of guilty was made and a fine of £5 with £8.10s. 0d. costs was imposed.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The situation remains the same as in previous years with all properties within easy reach of the public supply being connected. No further improvement has been effected with regard to those few properties not within easy reach.

Five samples were taken for chemical analysis and all were of good organic purity.

Five samples were taken for bacterial test. One was unsatisfactory and the remainder were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory sample was of the public supply delivered in a churn and re-sampling proved satisfactory.

The responsibility for the provision of a public water supply was transferred from Doncaster Corporation to the Doncaster and District Water Board on which the previous supplier is a constituent member.

The following is a copy of the report of a sample taken of the public water supply.

Chemical Examination (Parts per million)

Total Solids	...	...	...	...	400
Chloride	...	...	...	...	26
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	...	...	...	160
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	108
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	—
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	108
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	...	...	Nil
Iron	...	...	...	...	Nil
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.02
Nitreous Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	2.90
pH	...	...	...	...	7.4

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND CESSPOOLS

The position has not varied much. One large factory was provided with water-borne sanitation to replace pail closets.

Cleansing of Drains

The system of clearing drains on behalf of private owners operates satisfactorily and the service - which is almost impossible to have done by contractors - is appreciated by the owners, particularly in view of the nominal charge of five shillings.

Municipal Dustbin Scheme

This scheme operates very satisfactorily and little delay is experienced in the replacement of defective dustbins. 364 bins were issued during the year.

Verminous Properties

The following properties were treated for vermin.

Type of Vermin	Council Properties	Private Properties
Ants	49	2
Bugs	3	3
Flies	1	—
Woodworm	17	1
Blackcloths	11	6
Red Mite	3	—
Wasps	1	—
Earwigs	6	2
Silverfish	3	1
Fleas	1	—

This is an increase over previous years, but it is a service which goes some way to reduce the inconvenience caused by these pests.

Rodent Control

Inspection and treatment was carried out throughout the year. The use of a new refuse tip caused considerable trouble with rodent infestation and prolonged treatment was necessary before it was brought under control. During the year the service, which previously was free of charge for domestic premises only and on a charge basis for other premises, was made a free service for all premises - domestic, agricultural, industrial and commercial. There have been no undue demands for this service as a result of this decision and the scheme is operating well.

Details of Rodent Control

No. properties inspected as a result of notification ...	161
No. of such properties infested	149
No. properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	234
No. of such properties found to be infested	100
Total number infested properties	249
Total inspection and re-inspections	789
Total treatments and re-treatments	610

Atmospheric Pollution

Measurement of atmospheric pollution on behalf of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research continued throughout the year. A further instrument was brought into use in May and now the sulphur dioxide content of the atmosphere is measured by means of a daily volumetric reading as well as the monthly lead peroxide reading.

The Council were represented at the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution by the Chairman of the Lighting, Streets and Public Health Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector at the meetings held in London in May and November. These meetings were very instructive and informative and as the delegates become more aware of the problems under discussion the greater will be the advantage of attending these meetings.

Clean Air Act 1956, Section 3

One application was received for approval to install a new multi-tubular boiler and underfeed stoker to serve a laundry plant and this was approved.

Smoke observations have been taken of the industrial premises in the area and there has been less nuisance than heretofore. All industrial plant operators were given notice in January of the coming into force in July, 1963, of that part of the Clean Air Act, 1956, whereby it would no longer be a defence that a smoke nuisance was due to the nature of the buildings or equipment.

No serious nuisance has arisen from the one colliery spoilbank in the area. Grading and soiling operations have continued during the year.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

ANALYSES, 1962

Month	Insoluble Deposit Tons per sq. mile	Soluble Deposit Tons per sq. mile	Total Solids Tons per sq. mile
January	8.58	7.92	16.50
February	9.00	5.56	14.56
March	10.13	4.34	14.47
April	8.69	5.21	13.90
May	12.68	7.47	20.15
June	9.70	2.43	12.13
July	6.19	3.82	10.01
August	9.07	9.59	18.66
September	4.17	5.10	9.27
October	6.19	3.61	9.80
November	5.70	6.50	12.20
December	5.09	6.26	11.26
Average per month	7.93	5.65	13.58
Average per month, 1962	6.56	3.66	10.22

Caravans

There are seven licensed sites in the area containing a total of 177 caravans. These include three principal sites containing 90, 60 and 20 vans respectively. One site which was originally for 30 vans with another 30 vans adjoining for Showmen's Guild Winter Quarters is now a fully licensed site and a further site of 10 vans

was permitted for a Winter Quarter site. This latter site, however, also complies with the same conditions as those for the licensed sites. These large sites are well run and no problems have arisen.

Less trouble was experienced by the use of roadside verges by horse drawn and trailer caravans but this still remains a problem and only by persistent visits is this nuisance kept under control. In December considerable nuisance was caused in the Ings Lane, Arksey, area and prosecution action was commenced but the case was not heard until February of 1963.

An order under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, was obtained in respect of Starr's Field, Toll Bar. The areas within the district where Orders were in operation at the end of the year are as follows:—

1. Hall Villa Lane
2. Tilts Hills Lane
3. Starr's Field

Offensive Trades

Bone Boiler	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rag Store	...	...	...	...	...	1

The bone boiling plant in operation continued to be a difficult problem and gave rise to nuisance during the year. The premises were fully enclosed during the year and two mechanical air extraction plants were brought into operation. One plant was installed to deal with the main portion of the building and the second one was for the extraction of air from the cooker area. This very expensive scheme has proved to be only partially effective and even with the additional use of an air deodorant within the factory there are still noxious odours emitted from time to time. The management have been very co-operative and have also permitted members of the Lighting, Streets and Public Health Committee to examine the premises since there is a mutual desire on the part of both parties to solve this problem.

LICENCES AND REGISTRATIONS

Petroleum Acts

Thirty-six licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit. Three new tanks were installed and both these and the service pipes were pressure tested prior to use.

Pet Animals Act 1951

One licence was issued for the keeping of a pet shop.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951

The premises of one firm are registered for upholstery work.

West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951

Number of Registrations

Food Hawkers -	(a)	Premises	...	...	...	5
	(b)	Hawkers:-				
		General Grocery	...	...	...	9
		Butchers	...	...	...	11
		Ice Cream	...	...	...	8
		Bread and Confectionery	...	...	...	3
		Grocery and Greengrocery	...	...	...	2
		Greengrocery	...	...	...	8
		Fish	...	...	...	2
Hairdressers' Premises -	(a)	Ladies	...	...	...	16
	(b)	Gentlemen	...	...	...	6

SUPERVISION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY

Slaughterhouses Act 1958

Two slaughterhouses and one Knacker's Yard were licensed for use. No problems have arisen in respect of the operation of these premises.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 - 1959

Special Notices from Slaughterhouses ... 251

One hundred per cent inspection has again been carried out and no particular problem has been encountered in the operation of these regulations. As reported elsewhere in the report legal proceedings for illegal slaughtering during the previous year were taken successfully.

Slaughtering of Animals Acts 1933 - 1958

Humane slaughtering of all animals is in force throughout the district and no evidence of cruelty has been found.

No. of Slaughtermen's licences issued ... 21

Hydatid Research

At the request of the Hydatid Research Unit of the University of Otago, New Zealand, a further series of samples of cysts from horse livers were transmitted by air to New Zealand in August. These arrived in perfect condition and were of considerable value in the Unit's experiments.

In July 1962, approach was also made by the Department of Parasitology and Entomology of the University of Liverpool requesting co-operation in the study of hydatid disease in this country. Several batches of specimens of both infected livers and cysts were sent to Liverpool during the remainder of the year. Information was also supplied to the Principal on the incidence of hydatid in horses for use in a paper which was submitted to the International Conference on Hydatidology which was held in Uruguay in October.

Milk Sampling

Under the West Riding County Council's scheme the Inspectors of this authority carry out the samplings of milk in this area for chemical analyses. Forty samples were taken and all were genuine.

Registered Food Premises

Manufacturers of Lollipops	...	...	...	1
Wholesale store for Ice Cream	...	...	...	1
Retailers of Ice Cream & Lollipops	...	...	...	76
Preparation or manufacture of sausage, potted, pickled, pressed or preserved foods	...	...	...	21
Fish Friers	...	...	...	13

During the year the factory manufacturing ice cream and lollipops was closed down. Also during the year a large depot was erected for the use of ice cream vehicles having their own processing plants for soft ice cream and for the storage of ice cream mix in air-tight containers.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 - 1960

There has been a slight but steady improvement in the standard of hygiene in food shops but more frequent inspections are essential if a good standard is to be maintained. Successful representation was made to the Council early in 1963 for additional staff and the effect of this will, no doubt, be apparent in the coming years.

Sampling of Food for Bacterial Test

Ice Cream

Grading on Methylene Blue Test (All Types)

Grade 1	-	88	89.80%	}	96.94%
„ 2	-	7	7.14%		
„ 3	-	3	3.06%	}	3.06%
„ 4	-	Nil	Nil		
Total		98			

Wrapped Choc-Ice

Grade 1	-	10	71.44%	}	85.72%
„ 2	-	2	14.28%		
„ 3	-	2	14.28%	}	14.28%
„ 4	-	Nil	Nil		

Lollipops

No Coliform Bacteria present	14	100%
Coliform Bacteria present	Nil	Nil

Total Samples

Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	98
Lollipops	...	...	...	...	14
					112

Meat and Food Inspections

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	251
Inspections of Meat and Other Foods	...	...	...	...	309
Number of Condemnations	...	...	...	...	327
Animals slaughtered:—					
Horses	...	...	...	...	995
Cows	...	...	...	...	205
Bullocks and Heifers	...	...	...	...	524
Bulls	...	...	...	...	3
Pigs	...	...	...	...	70
Sheep	...	...	...	...	61
Calves	...	...	...	...	49

1907

CONDEMNATIONS

Horses —					lbs.	ozs.
Carcases & Offals	—	20	...	...	12,350	
Livers	—	60	...	...	840	
Hindlegs	—	2	...	...	180	
Sides	—	1	...	...	325	

Cows —						
Carcases & Offals	—	61	...	...	30,580	
Livers	—	19	...	...	266	
Forequarters	—	1	...	...	80	
Hindquarters	—	7	...	...	890	
Heads & Tongues	—	2	...	...	80	
Flanks	—	3	...	...	190	
Brisket	—	2	...	...	20	
Kidneys	—	5	...	...	28	
Legs	—	2	...	...	50	

Bullocks —						
Carcases & Offals	—	19	...	...	7,700	
Livers	—	25	...	...	346	
Heads & Tongues	—	6	...	...	220	
Sets of Lungs	—	3	...	...	36	
Flanks	—	4	...	...	285	
Brisket	—	1	...	...	10	
Kidneys	—	1	...	...	10	
Hindlegs	—	4	...	...	110	
Hindquarters	—	3	...	...	450	

Heifers —

Carcases & Offals	—	3	1,080
Livers	—	2	19
Heads & Tongues	—	1	40

Calves —

Carcases & Offals	—	8	790
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Pigs —

Carcases & Offals	—	15	1,410
Pluck	—	1	6
Shoulder & Leg	—	1	13
Forelegs	—	4	30

Sheep —

Carcases & Offals	—	12	...	...	...	750
Livers	—	1	...	...	...	5

Meat	—	21	tins	...	...	62	8
Fruit	—	58	tins	...	...	76	13
Vegetables	—	37	tins	...	...	38	$\frac{1}{2}$
Fish	—	18	tins	...	...	7	7
Milk	—	13	tins	...	...	7	
Soup	—	4	tins	...	...	2	5
Jams, etc.	—	16	jars	...	...	16	
Pickles	—	7	bottles	...	...	5	11
Sauces & Condiments	—	2	bottles	...	...		$14\frac{3}{4}$
Cordials, etc.	—	4	bottles	...	...	5	6
Coffee	—	2	tins		6
Bacon	—			7	
Meat Paste	—	10	jars	12	
Potatoes	—			9,900	

Total	...	69,319	$3\frac{1}{4}$
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Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	527	205	49	61	70	995
Number Inspected	527	205	49	61	70	995
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercii						
Whole carcases condemned ...	22	67	8	12	15	19
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	47	36	—	1	4	65
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ...	13.09	50.24	16.33	21.31	27.14	8.44
Tuberculosis Only						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.19	—	—	—	1.43	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

MILK SAMPLES FOR BRUCELLOSIS & BIOLOGICAL TEST

Raw Milks. No. of samples 17.

	Negative	Doubtful	Positive
Brucellosis	13	—	4
Biological	17	—	—

HOUSING ACT 1957

Overcrowding

Action has been taken in respect of overcrowding in the case of the occupation of a caravan and re-housing was effected by the local authority. During the year a survey was made of all the two-bedroom rented properties in the district, excluding local authority owned houses. Out of approximately 250 such houses, it was found that 10% were morally overcrowded, taking into account that it is not the general practice to use a sole living room for sleeping purposes. No action was taken by the Council at the time but a further survey is to be made in the future.

Individual Unfit Houses

During the year five caravans were reported as unfit for human habitation. These were demolished and the occupants re-housed.

An undertaking in respect of one house at Toll Bar not to be used for human habitation until it had been brought up to the required standard was accepted by the Authority. The house was still closed at the end of the year.

Clearance Areas

No representations were made during the year.

R. L. CROWTHER LTD.
(Printers)

Sunny Bar, Doncaster

Tel. 61123/4.